



# The ILLINOIS ENGINEER

ILLINOIS SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS  
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Affiliated with the National Society of Professional Engineers

CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS



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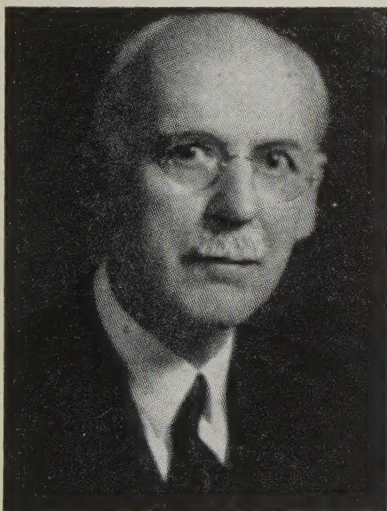
SUMMER ISSUE

SEPTEMBER, 1950

## CSBEE AWARDS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CERTIFICATE TO THEODORE L. CONDRON

When the National Council of State Boards of Engineering Examiners gathers for its 1950 Annual Meeting in Chicago in October it will be celebrating its 30th anniversary.

One of the highlights of the annual banquet on Tuesday evening, October 10, 1950, will be the award to Theodore Lincoln Condron of a Distinguished Service Certificate. This award is in recognition of his more than thirty years of service as a member of the Illinois Structural Engineers Examining Committee. Although the National Council has awarded Distinguished Service Certificates annually since 1938 the award to Doctor Condron is the first to be granted to one not connected with a Member Board of the National Council. The Illinois Structural Engineering Act is one of the oldest Registration Acts, antedating by some five years the organization of the National Council. Mr. Condron attended the first meeting of the National Council but it has never been possible for the Illinois Structural Engineering Committee to become a member.



Theodore Lincoln Condron

Mr. Condron was born in Washington, D. C. on the 1st of April in 1866. He received his engineering education at Rose Polytechnic Institute, from which he graduated as a Bachelor of Science in 1890. There also received the degree of Master of Science in 1892 and

(Continued on page 2)

**SIXTY-SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING  
ILLINOIS SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL  
ENGINEERS  
CHAMPAIGN-URBANA  
FEBRUARY 1, 2 and 3, 1951**

## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Summer wanes, autumn approaches with weather inspirational. The midpoint of our Society year is well past. These facts should incite each chapter and each member to greater activity for the Society.

I quote three passages to exemplify the theme:

1. Credit Joe B. Butler, Missouri School of Mines, Rolla, for this citation from Francis Bacon: "I hold every man a debtor to his profession; from which as men of course do seek to receive countenance and profit, so ought they of duty to endeavor themselves by way of amends to be a help and ornament thereto."

2. From James F. Fairman's presidential address "Is Engineering a Profession?" at annual A. I. E. E. convention in June (Fairman is a past vice-president of N. S. P. E. and currently chairman of its Inter-Society Relations Committee): "We do a lot of preaching about the development of professional consciousness and then proceed to undermine our gospel. One example . . . We expend a considerable amount of our efforts and resources . . . playing up what the organization has to offer the individual for his dues rather than what the individual can do for his profession . . . Without intending to do so we thereby tend to depreciate our organization and our profession in the eyes of our members, prospective members, and the public . . . Let us stop being apologetic . . . Let us begin asking the prospective member what he has to give . . . good for the organization . . . Until more engineers volunteer for membership and service . . . each asking what he can give rather than what he will get . . . we shall continue to be handicapped . . ."

3. Anonymous, from *Registration Bulletin* of National Council of State Boards of Engineering Examiners, June, 1950:

Are you an active member, the kind who would be missed,  
Or are you just contented that your name is on the list?  
Do you attend the meetings and mingle with the flock  
Or do you stay away and criticize and knock?  
Do you take an active part to help the work along  
Or are you satisfied to be the kind who "just belong"?  
Do you ever work on committees to see there is no trick  
Or leave the work to just a few and talk about the clique?

## SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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So come to meetings often and help with hand and heart;

Don't be just a member but take an active part!

Think this over, brother, you know right from wrong,  
Are you an active member or do you just belong?

GEORGE E. EKBLAW, *President.*

### CONDRON

(Continued from page 1)

the degree of Civil Engineer in 1918. In 1947 in recognition of his distinguished career his alma mater conferred on him the degree of Doctor of Engineering.

Mr. Condrón's long professional career has been devoted largely to the field of structural engineering. Immediately after graduation he gained experience under the late George S. Morison, one of America's most distinguished bridge engineers. This was followed by two years as an instructor in engineering at Washington University under the late J. B. Johnson, and by six years in the Chicago office of the Pittsburgh Testing Laboratory. With this background Mr. Condrón opened his own office in 1901 and established an engineering practice that was to cover a period of more than forty years and to bring him many important assignments and honors.

In spite of the heavy demands of his practice Mr. Condrón has devoted much time to civic and professional affairs. He has been an active member of many professional societies. Among them: the American Society of Civil Engineers, of which he was a Director in 1923-25; the Western Society of Engineers, of which he is a former officer and now an Honorary Member, and which honored him in 1905 with the award of its Chanute Medal; the American Railway Engineering Association; and the American Society for Testing Materials.

Mr. Condrón was one of the founders of the Chicago Engineers Club in 1903 and in October 1938, the Club elected him to Honorary Membership.

Mr. Condrón's long service to registration dates back to about 1915 when he served as a member of a subcommittee of the old American Engineering Council, charged with the preparation of a typical registration act, work which later was to lead to the so-called Model Law for the Registration of Professional Engineers. His official connection with registration began with his appointment as a member of the Illinois Structural Engineers Examining Committee immediately after the adoption of the Illinois Structural Engineering Act. His membership on that committee has continued without interruption for the more than thirty years of its existence. He has served with distinction in all offices of the committee and is currently its secretary.

The Distinguished Service Certificate is a well deserved personal tribute to Mr. Condrón and an honor in which all Illinois engineers can take pride.

Reported by THOMAS C. SHEDD.

## LEGISLATIVE ANALYST PROGRAM

By H. A. SPAFFORD

*Chairman, Legislative Analyst Committee*

Some of the Chapter Legislative Analyst committees are progressing nicely in soliciting voluntary contributions to finance this program. One chapter has already collected several hundred dollars and several other chapters are making progress. The plan which seems to produce the best results is similar to the annual drive for funds adopted by many churches in which a committee member is assigned eight or ten members' names. He calls upon these personally. There are few members who will not contribute \$5.00 or \$10.00 to this worthy cause if actually contacted. It is up to the local chapter chairman to request that his committee be expanded if necessary so that these personal contacts can be made without putting too much burden on one or two committee members.

Besides the preparation of several articles on this subject, which have appeared in this column of the Illinois Engineer this summer, I have personally visited upon invitation, five chapters to verbally explain the needs of the Society for the services of a Legislative Analyst while the State Legislature is in session. Several more chapters will be visited in September. I welcome the opportunity to visit the remainder of the chapters, if their officers will contact me.

I have found by these personal visits and informal discussion with our members, that there are many items concerning the value of a full-time Legislative Analyst which many of the members had not previously realized.

There are only a few months left in which to complete the contribution program to make a full-time Legislative Analyst possible. Sincere effort by the chapter officers and the committees this fall along with the cooperation of Society members will put this program on the top.

Let's provide ourselves with the same kind of legislative service that the other professions have done. If we would establish our profession with status equal to the doctors, lawyers, and dentists, we must do it with the tools our political economy has given us. Let's discard out stone-age implements and adopt modern tools to elevate our professional status. Let's equip ourselves with a full-time Legislative Analyst!

## Obituary

(Extracted from Capital Chapter, "Chatter")

Another heavy loss to Capital Chapter's membership came late in July with the death of H. L. Caldwell of Jacksonville. Mr. Caldwell was the founder of Caldwell Engineering Co., well known consulting firm, and a long-time member of ISPE. Capital Chapter regrets to record his passing.



## VOX SECRETARII

P. E. ROBERTS, *Assistant Secretary*

## Membership

During August, the membership in the Society passed 1949 total to set a new high. This means that membership committees have three and a half months to continue pushing the total into new high ground. Ten applications from each Chapter will not only make possible the 2000 goal, but also inject a little pep into each chapter. Since there are just ten weeks left before September 1st, an average of one application per week will turn the trick.

## Payments

August payments continue to show slightly better than the same time last year, but, unless your office receives some substantial help from the Chapter Secretaries this department will fall behind last year before September 1st. As Harvey Woodruff used to say, Help! Help!

## Hillany

Summer resort weather held out in Champaign-Urbana until the last week of August—then it got a little cooler. . . . Refresher course classes have dropped five—Chicago, Rockford, Waukegan, Decatur and Dana. . . . The Military Affairs Committee may have plenty of work to do unless things change rapidly in the next month. . . . Jim Whelen became "Father of the Bride" on August 29th. . . . Get your application, you have been intending to send in, sent out and mailed today. . . . Have you heard about the absent minded illuminating engineer who mounted a non-glare neon lamp for his sun dial so that he could read it at night?

## COST OF LIVING INDEX

The correction factor to be applied to the I. S. P. E. schedule of Minimum Fees and Salaries was 172.5 for August, 1950. The factor is based upon the U. S. Department of Labor's most recent Consumer Price Index.

A card from Editor Oliver reports that he is eating a lot of fish. Bill and his family are vacationing at Sayre, Wisconsin. After a cold start, his last card says that they are thawing out.

## N C S B E E CONVENTION

The National Council of State Boards of Engineering and Mining will sit in convention at the Congress Hotel, Chicago, October 9, 10, and 11, 1951. Registration in the name of Mr. T. Keith Legare, Executive Secretary of the Council, South Carolina will begin at 9:00 A.M., October 10th. Meetings will be held throughout the day and will be followed by a social get-together from 5:30 to 8:30 Monday evening. Following the Tuesday meetings will be the Annual Banquet.

Members of the Illinois Society are cordially invited to attend both the meeting and the banquet. Banquet tickets will be on sale at the registration desk.

## ITEMS OF PERSONAL INTEREST

*This column is read and enjoyed. Send in items (any item of a personal nature is good copy) concerning yourself or your friends. Give us the facts. We'll write them up for you.*

Louis R. McCreight, former Junior Representative on the Board of Direction stopped in to say hello on his vacation late in August. Big Louie is in the Research Division of General Electric in Schenectady, New York. From all appearances, Louie enjoys his work. G. E. has been keeping him busy since he left Illinois.

\* \* \*

During August, A. M. (Al) Frost, Capital Chapter was handed two new jobs. In the Illinois Society, Al was elected by his Chapter to finish out the term of Dick Nelle as Capital Chapter Representative on the Board of Direction. Al's second assignment is national membership chairman of the American Public Power Association. These two new jobs added to his present active life will keep Al very busy all winter.

\* \* \*

President George E. Ekblaw lost another brother with the death of Mr. Edward Ekblaw on August 3rd. This is the third brother and a sister Dr. Ekblaw has lost in the past 41 months.

\* \* \*

Champaign County Chapter held an old style family picnic in place of its regular August Meeting at Robert Allerton Park on August 3rd. From the number and quality of the children in attendance, engineers make excellent fathers.

\* \* \*

If you have ever had any doubts about whether the Illinois Engineer is read by its members, we have evidence that they not only read it but save it. Last month, we requested a back copy to complete our office files. Five copies, one from out of state, have been sent to us. Our personal thanks have been sent. It has been said before but it bears repeating, "If you want something done, ask an engineer to do it."

\* \* \*

Secretary and Mrs. Babbitt are in the vicinity of Washington, D. C. After leaving Oak Ridge they have been in Amherst, Mass., Bristol, R. I., Hastings-on-Hudson, N. Y., New Castle, Delaware, and, Washington. Besides his new vocabulary, the Professor should have a wonderful bunch of pictures.

\* \* \*

Committee Chairmen have been named for the 66th Annual Meeting which will be held in Champaign-Urbana on February 1, 2, and 3, 1951. Particular stress has been placed on the ladies entertainment. There are many things of interest to the ladies around the University. Plan now to bring your "Missus" with you to the Society's Annual Meeting.



# News From Chapters

## Champaign County Chapter

Members and guests met on July 6, 1950, at 6:15 P.M. in the Illini Union Building. After eating dinner in the cafeteria, the meeting adjourned to room 209 for the business meeting. There were 23 members and guests present.

President Anderson, after opening the business meeting called for the introduction of guests. Following this the minutes of the May 4 meeting and the June 1 meeting were read and approved.

Mr. W. A. Oliver, N. S. P. E. director, reported on recent National Convention of N. S. P. E. He stated that the National Society's Statement of Principles Regarding Collective Bargaining for Professional Employees was adopted by the convention with the deletion of the last sentence of the second paragraph of principle 2. This sentence starts with "Professional employees who find themselves already subject to collective bargaining should . . ."

W. J. Roberts, chairman of membership committee, reported that he has the current list of members who have been dropped. He asked for assistance in returning these men to the fold.

There being no further committee reports nor old business, the floor was cleared for the presentation of new business.

Mr. Halsey stated that he felt that the name Champaign County Chapter was too restrictive a name for an organization that actually covered seven counties beside Champaign County. He suggested that a more appropriate name might be found. He said that someone had mentioned the name Illini Chapter as a possibility. Mr. Morgan agreed that a new name might be desirable, but he opposed the name Illini Chapter, saying that the name Illini is overworked, and could mean any place in the state. He suggested that the Chapter might be called the Founder's Chapter or the I. C. Baker Chapter. Mr. Morgan moved that a committee be appointed to study the possibilities of a new name and to prepare a list of names for presentation to the September meeting. The final selection of a name to be made by letter ballot from the members.

**MOTION SECONDED AND CARRIED.**

President Anderson appointed the following committee;

J. F. Halsey, Chairman

H. E. Hudson

R. H. Harmeson

He instructed them to prepare the previously mentioned list by the September meeting.

Following this B. F. Muirheid reported on the last I. S. P. E. board meeting.

# "LOCK-UP"

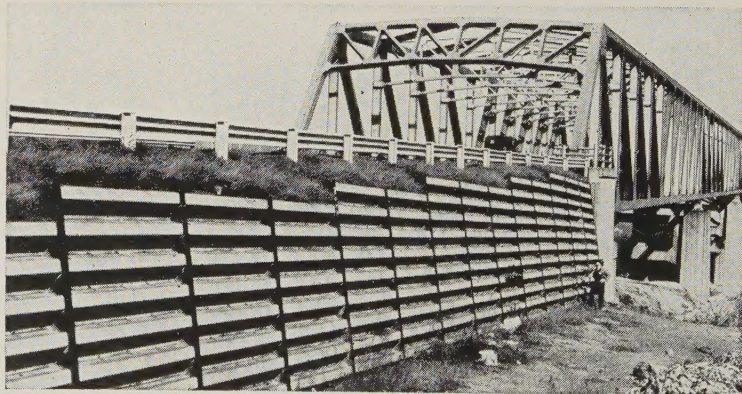
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Mr. Muirheid then introduced Lee Stickler, Junior member of the board, who gave a short general talk on the activities of the Junior Members.

Mr. Muirheid then introduced H. A. Spafford, State Chairman of Legislative Analyst Committee. He discussed the need for a legislative analyst in Springfield. The meeting adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

J. W. BRISCOE, *Secretary*.

## Madison County Chapter

A regular meeting was called to order by President Magg at 8:30 P.M., July 11th, 1950, in the conference room of Alton Boxboard Co. After the introduction of visitors, the usual order of business followed.

Program chairman Graham then presented Prof. C. Wiley of the University of Illinois, whose subject was "Speeds and Speed Limits," as related to Highway Engineering. Cases were cited in which speed limits were increased, with a more uniform flow of traffic and fewer accidents. Prof. Wiley also discussed the subject of School Crossings, and what to do about them.

Mr. H. A. Spafford, State Chairman of the Legislative Analyst Committee, spoke of the program to show that

we are going to give representation to engineers.

Mr. "Pat" Murphy, President of the Capital Chapter, spoke of the need to see the members personally to build the Legislative Analyst Fund.

Adjournment was followed by refreshments at the Plant Cafeteria.

\* \* \*

On July 22, fourteen members and guests of Madison County Chapter made an inspection tour of the new East St. Louis Bridge, at the invitation of Mr. N. J. Law, Jr., Resident Engineer for Hazelet & Erdal. Mr. Law pointed out special features of the bridge design, and right-of-way problems encountered. Crossing over the neighboring Eads Bridge, we were able to inspect the West approach and the construction of the concrete deck to about the middle of the main truss.

\* \* \*

A regular monthly meeting was held August 8th at the Alton Plant of the Russell Miller Milling Co., with ladies invited to make a tour of the flour mill in operation. During a short business session called to order by Vice-Pres. Shanahan, minutes of the previous meet-



ing were read and approved. The Secretary was directed to publicize the refresher course to be offered in time for the November examination.

Our guides, Mr. Ryan and Mr. Rynearson, took us to the 9th floor of the new mill building, which is of "slip-form" reinforced concrete design. Following "gravity flow" from floor to floor, the group observed facilities for storing, grinding, sifting, blending, and packaging the product. (President Flagg joined the party at the 5th floor, having been unable to attend earlier.)

Last, but not least, we were invited to "take care of" some of the test results in the Laboratory where bread and cakes are made and tested as a regular part of the business. Further refreshments in the form of "cokes" and jugs of hot coffee were also provided by our hosts.

L. K. MEYER, *Secretary*  
Madison County Chapter

### Egyptian Chapter

The Egyptian Chapter of the Illinois Society of Professional Engineers held its regular June meeting at the Jackson Country Club near Murphysboro, on Tuesday evening, June 20, 1950.

Our membership chairman, Mr. Kenneth H. Setzekorn of Mt. Vernon, had sent out 140 invitations to non-Chapter-members registered professional engineers in our area. As a result, 20 guests and 18 members had chicken dinner together.

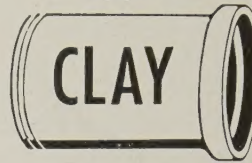
President T. O. Cromeenes presided at the business meeting following the dinner. The minutes of the last meeting were read. Members present were Messrs. Cromeenes, Anderson, Hindman, Foster, Persson, Meisenheimer, Burnett, Setzekorn, Harbison, R. D. Brown, Sr., Huffman, Kline, R. R. Brown, Kerwath, Brock, Vinyard, Simonds, and Killpatrick. Engineering guests were C. K. Gibbons, Sam Carrothers, E. H. Bredchoft, Rex V. Woodward, Stanley Edwister, D. E. Ball, W. F. Zeschke, Fred W. Stanton, Julius Bione, Carl F. Wall, Emery G. Lamb, Samuel D. Wright, E. G. Ross, Jr., H. Efner, W. S. Skeels, and Fred Riley. Southern Illinois University was represented by President D. W. Morris, and faculty members Alex Reed, Ben Fehrman, and L. R. Tucker.

Membership Chairman Setzekorn spoke on the purposes of ISPE and NSPE pointing out that our organization is doing good work for the benefit of all professional engineers but that its activities are restricted by its low percentage of membership. He requested anyone interested to submit application.

Program Chairman Kerwath gave us the dope on the Chapter picnic, to be held August 12th at a private grove at the Ranch, on SB Route 13 east of Marion. It was decided to extend invitations to all engineers and their guests in our area.

Mr. Kerwath then introduced the speaker of the evening, Mr. Guy Fairfield, Chief Engineer of the Illinois Department of Conservation, who spoke on the small pond and lake program of the Department.

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